

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

caused by the coming of the English as their justification, they informed the Republics of Pisa, Siena, Lucca, and Arezzo « what they had done, and called upon them to join the league.

Having thus blackmailed the Florentines, Hawkwood, July, came into the contado of Pisa and then into that of Siena compelling each of these communes to make similar terms. Pisa paid 30,000 florins, and Siena 35,500 (of which Montepulciano contributed 3,000). ^{fc} In order that the Commune should not suffer for what the pastors of the Church had wrongly made them pay," the Florentines and Sienese imposed a heavy tax on the ecclesiastics to raise the money, a levy which, in the case of the clergy of Siena, amounted to two-thirds of the whole sum.

Catherine was apparently still at Pisa while these things were being done. Hawkwood had previously made a sort of promise that he would join the Crusade ; the time seemed ripe for him to call upon him to fulfil his word, and so leave Tuscany in peace. She accordingly sent Fra Raimondo to the English camp, with letter to Hawkwood and his captains, exhorting them to abandon « the service and pay of the devil, and become soldiers of Christ crucified. " I pray you sweetly in Christ Jesus that, since God and our Holy Father have ordered the expedition against the infidels, and you delight so much in making war and fighting you war no more upon Christians, because it offends God; but go against those others. How cruel it is that we who are Christians, members bound in the body of Holy Church, should persecute one another ! I am much amazed that, after having promised (as I have heard) to go to die for Christ in this enterprise, you should now be making war here. This is not the holy disposition that God demands from you." This letter however, merely the credentials for Fra Raimondo, who is to give them her full message by word of mouth. ^{sc} My father and so Fra Raimondo, is bringing you this letter. Trust what he tells you, for he is a true, faithful servant of God, and will not advise or tell you anything save what is for the honour of God, and the salvation and glory of your soul." So much were Hawkwood and his captains impressed by the friar's exhortations that they